

DETAILED ACTION

Notice of Amendment

1. In response to the amendment filed on 12/19/2007, amended claims 1-3 and 5-8, canceled claim(s) 4, and new claim(s) 13 is/are acknowledged. The following is/are set forth:

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement(s) (IDS) submitted on 02/06/2008 is/are acknowledged. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement(s).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-3, 5-8, and 13 allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: see paragraphs 27-28 of Office Action mailed 10/11/2007.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see pages 14-15, filed 12/19/2007, with respect to the allowability of claims 1-3, 5-8, and 13 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-3 and 5-8 has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Albert Smith on 3/24/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 9-12 (Canceled).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey G. Hoekstra whose telephone number is (571)272-7232. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Max F. Hindenburg can be reached on (571)272-4726. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3736

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/J.H./

Jeff Hoekstra
Examiner, Art Unit 3736

/Max Hindenburg/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3736